CHECKUP

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CHECK COLLECTORS ROUND TABLE

APRIL 1986

CCRT gets mention in March BNR

The first issue of the Checkup received a review in the March 1986 issue of the Bank Note Reporter.

Also plugged in the same story was the British Cheque Collectors Society.

"With a check, check collectors also get a Checkup," the story explained.

Also carried in the March issue of the BNR were three stories of interest to CCRT members.

The first, "War secretary Stanton still puzzles historians" by Frederick M. Finney, deals with Edwin McMasters Stanton, Secretary of War under Abe Lincoln. Illustred with the article is a U.S. Depository check dated 1903 bearing the vignette of Stanton. The cutline for the check notes: "Check collectors have brought these warrants to the general attention of the paper money hobby."

Another article, "Ancestry leads to paper money, coins and 'home'" by Daniel K.E. Ching, illustrates special cashier checks used in the Special Economic Zones of the Peoples Republic of China.

The final article presents a brief overview of the bond and share hobby abroad.

Lady Liberty: front & center!

This year is an important anniversary for the Statue of Liberty. Being interested in vignettes on checks, I was happy to find a check with the Statue of Liberty vignette two years ago at a coin show. Since then, to my surprise, I have found four more. From left to right are: Promissory note (nused); check of Liberty National Bank & Trust of Oklahoma City dated 1969; receipt from Lockport (N.Y.) dated 1895; check of the Liberty National Bank of Oklahoma City dated 1947; and, check of the Liberty Insurance Bank of Louisvilkle (Ky.) dated 192_. If you are looking for something different in your collection, why not collect examples of a vignette that you like? How about: famous persons, steamships, Indians, agricultural products or historic monuments? The choice, and effort, are up to you.

Helen Spence

Society exists for postal orders

According to CCRT member Jim Noll, a British organization exists for those who collect postal orders.

Postal orders are pieces of paper issued by the postal authorities in countries throughout the world. These orders can be exchanged for postage. For example, if I were to respond to an advertisement for a check auction in Great Britain and I wanted to know if I had a successful bid, as a matter of courtesy I might enclose a postal order so the party could get the air mail postage required to notify me.

Persons interested in collecting these fiscal historical documents of Great Britain should write: The Postal Order Society, c/o A.J. Brown, 23 Westdale Walk, Kempston, Bedfordshire, MK42 8NX, United Kingdom.

Book available on Oklahoma banking

According to Western Historical Quarterly, James M. Smallwood's book, "An Oklahoma Adventure: Of Banks and Bankers" reflects in a traditional narrative an institutional history of commercial banking in Oklahoma from the early 1800s through the 1970s.

The work is available at $5.95 plus postage and handling of $1.50 until May 31. It is 256 pages in length.

Working For The Hobby

Bob Wilhite

Veteran Numismatic News market analyst Bob Wilhite pools pricing data from ads, auctions, personal contacts at conventions and the teletype to arrive at representative wholesale and retail values. Each week these up-to-date market values are presented in Coin Market, the accurate guide in Numismatic News.

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Resident intern prescribes checks for enjoyment

One way to accomplish enjoyment out of collecting checks is to gather checks from cities, towns and banks with unusual names.

For example: Coffee Springs and Reform, Ala.; Cotton and Marked Tree, Ark.; Castle Rock, Cripple Creek, Eagle, Fairplay, Rifle, Sugar City, Victor and Wild Horse, Colo.; Sleepy Eye, Welcome and Good Thunder, Minn.

Should you be inclined...try for checks bearing your first or last name: Clifton, Craig, Hugo or Lamar, Colo.; Morris, Ada, Lyle, Carlton, Bertha or Herman, Minn.

Now that you have the idea pick up your U.S. atlas and look for interesting names. Of course, not every town had a bank, but an interesting collection can be built at a reasonable cost that will not only please you but be a joy to show to friends and fellow collectors.

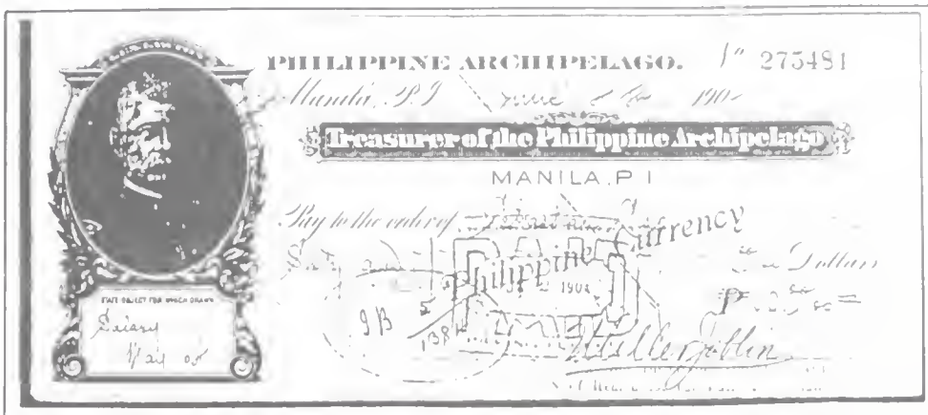
Many banks have unusual names...Troy National Bank, Sioux City, Iowa; Shoe and Leather Bank of New York City. Many checks were issued by Farmer's, Merchant's or Mechanic's banks throughout the U.S.

Cleveland, Ohio, has--or had--a bank called "The Brotherhood of Locomotive Employee's Co-operative National Bank of Cleveland.' This was the longest name used on National bank notes.

Should you be a bookkeeper and want to collect by the numbers try...First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, etc., National banks.

Most medical prescriptions are expensive and the prescribed to help relieve health problems brought on by mental strain. Collecting checks brings mental and physical relaxation which can often prevent such strain. Enough advice from this resident intern.

Herman Borakes



An old Philippine check

Contained on this check is the vignette of Henry Ware Lawton, who was born in Toldeo, Ohio, in 1843. He served in the Union Army and became regular Army in 1866. In 1898, he was assigned to the command of a corps in the Philippines. Even though this check may be "old news," the Philippines are certainly very much in the news today.

William H. Stump

Calendar of events needs your input!

Walt Alcott writes in and suggests that the Checkup carry a calendar of shows that check collectors could use to plan their trips.

One of the main problems with listing every show that you may see in a Bank Note Reporter or other similar publication is that not many of the dealers carry checks at all.

So, as a criteria for listing in future issues of the Checkup, the show must offer at least five dealers with substantial holdings of checks, bonds, stocks, and other fiscal documents.

Dealers and/or collectors wishing to have a convention listed here should write: Checkup Conventions, c/o Trey Foerster, Rt. 2 Box 1, Iola, WI 54945. Include: date, show name, show site, bourse contact address and phone number.

MAY 23-25--Glendale Coin & Stamp Exposition, Glendale, CA. Contact: (213) 622-6295.
JUNE 5-8--Long Beach Coin & Stamp Show, Long Beach Convention Center, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA.
JUNE 20-21--Memphis Paper Money Show, Memphis, TN.
AUGUST 22-24--Sahara Hotel Coin Show, Las Vegas, NV.
SEPTEMBER 12-14--Glendale Coin and Stamp Exposition, Glendale, CA. Contact: (213) 622-6295.
NOVEMBER 13-16--National Paper Money Convention, sponsored by the Professional Currency Dealers Assoc., St. Louis, MO.
DECEMBER 12-14--Glendale Coin & Stamp Exposition, Glendale, CA. Contact: (213)622-6295.

Security Printers List now being updated by Spence

Robert Spence is now spearheading the maintenance of the Security Printers List. Ray Rathjen has resigned as chairman of this project for personal reasons.

Persons interested in the project are asked to contact Spence: P.O. Box 69, Boynton Beach, FL 33425.

Checkup receives rave reviews from membership & hobbyists

Since this first issue of the Checkup hit the mails--and despite the erratic delivery by the post office--I have received numerous positive response to the newsletter and no negative comments.

As a result of this input, many different things are going to be tried in this and successive issue.

In fact, one of the best deals going for us at this juncture in time is my purchase of a MacIntosh 512K computer and a friendly offering of assistance at a very, very affordable price from Ken Trettin of the American Revenuer. Ken has offered us use of his laserprinter. So, our typesetting for the Checklist will be done on my computer but printed by Ken.

I hope that you have enjoyed this issue. Look for more to come. The next issue of the Checklist will come out this summer and include our first membership roster in a long, long time.

Best regards,

Trey Foerster

Check protector value explained

In answer to a question posed by Floyd Christensen of Manistique, Mich., Jack Weaver explains the value of check protectors.

"I collected check protectors for quite a few years, finally selling my entire collection a couple of years ago to a bank in southern California. I believe there were 50 or so different models plus duplication. I had several Automatics. As I remember, I paid only $50 or $55 for it and it is one of the nicest ones I have ever seen. Later, I got one in its original oak case and still another in a black fiber case.

The demand for these machines, in my experience, is so thin that it's hard to get an appropriate price. An Automatic in working order but with some rust and maybe a wooden handle missing might bring about $35. One in first-class shape in its original oak case should be worth between $150 and $175...and anything inbetween.

Price List info

James of London (England) has issued a compact 84-page 4x6-inch booklet. This retail listing (#1) offers checks of Great Britain as well as some British overseas possessions. Also tagged into the tailend of the booklet are travelers checks.

For a copy of the price booklet mail £1 to: James of Norwich, 33 Timberhill, Norwich NR1 3LA, United Kingdom.

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